

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2005-236-W - ORDER NO. 2005-546
OCTOBER 5, 2005

IN RE: Application of Dowd Water Systems, Inc. for) ORDER APPROVING
 Approval to Transfer the Water Systems) TRANSFER AND
 Serving the Isle of Pines Subdivision to the) WAIVING NOTICE AND
 Lexington County Public Works Department.) HEARING

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of Dowd Water Systems, Incorporated (Dowd or the Company) for transfer of the water system serving the Isle of Pines Subdivision to the Lexington County Public Works Department (Lexington). According to the Application, pursuant to Commission Orders 2003-66 and 2003-179, Dowd was to keep the water system functional until an interconnection was facilitated with a municipal entity.

The Application reveals further that Lexington County has extended lines to service the Isle of Pines Subdivision and meters have been installed to provide service through the Town of Chapin for the 17 customers previously serviced by Dowd Water Systems, Incorporated. The Company is facilitating under the Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC's) guidance, proper close out of the system in compliance with DHEC Regulation 61-71.10.

The Company requests that the Commission waive any hearing requirement as it believes that this request is in the public interest and is an effort to comply with prior Commission Orders 2003-66 and 2003-179.

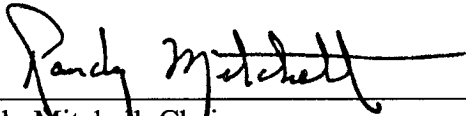
Further, a position statement on this matter has been received from the Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS). ORS states that it does not oppose the transfer of the Isle of Pines Subdivision Water System to the Lexington County Public Works Department in this Docket. ORS notes that all customers have been notified of the proposed transfer, and Dowd has provided all requested information to the ORS. ORS believes that the transfer is in the public interest, and requests that this Commission approve the transfer and waive the notice of filing and hearing in this matter.

We agree with ORS. The difficulties with the Isle of Pines system as owned by Dowd were well described in prior Commission Orders. Clearly, the public interest requirement stated by 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-704 has been satisfied by interconnection with the Lexington County system, and we grant the Certificate required by that Regulation. This interconnection is also consistent with the intent of this Commission as stated previously in our Orders. All customers have been notified of the interconnection. Thus, we waive the notice and hearing requirement of 103-704, pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-701(3). Unusual difficulty would certainly be introduced if the Company was required to notice the interconnection and transfer twice, and the waiver is most assuredly in the public interest, since the Lexington County system will provide superior water service to the affected customers.

Accordingly, we approve the transfer, grant the necessary Certificate, and waive notice and hearing of this matter.


This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)